

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 2, 2004. Claims 30 to 39 remain pending in the application, of which Claims 30 and 35 to 39 are independent. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claims 30 to 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,229,540 (Tonelli). Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The present invention concerns registering location information to a device. According to the invention, from a client computer, a user inputs device attribute information to search for a desired device. The client computer then receives from, for example, a server, search results, which include device information of at least one device that satisfies the device attribute information. In one aspect of the invention, the search results are displayed on a display (e.g., as icons representing the device) so that a device included in the search results is identifiable as to whether or not location information of the device is registered. For a device whose location information is not registered, the location information is set. In one aspect, the setting may be performed by designating an icon of a device at a location on a map displayed on the display. Once the location information has been set, hierarchical location information including respective location information of plural hierarchies is registered to the device whose location information is not registered. As a result of the foregoing, once the hierarchical location information including plural hierarchies is registered in the device, a user can search for the device based on any one of the plural hierarchies. For instance, plural hierarchies such as "2-1 room" of "second floor" of "AA building" can be registered so that the device will be found in searches that

have search conditions of “searching for devices in AA building”, or “searching for devices on second floor”, or “searching for devices in 2-1 room”.

With specific reference to the claims, amended independent Claim 30 is an information processing apparatus, comprising a transmission unit arranged to transmit device attribute information input by a user to search for a desired device, a reception unit arranged to receive, as search results, device information of at least one device satisfying the device attribute information transmitted by said transmission unit, a display unit arranged to identifiably display whether or not location information of a device included in the search results received by the reception unit is registered, a setting unit arranged to set location information of a device whose location information is not registered, among devices included in the search results, and a registration unit arranged to register hierarchical location information including respective location information of plural hierarchies to the device whose location information is not registered, according to the location information set by the setting unit.

Amended independent Claims 36 and 38 are method and computer-medium claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 30.

Amended independent Claim 35 is an information processing apparatus, comprising a transmission unit arranged to transmit device attribute information input by a user to search for a desired device, a reception unit arranged to receive, as search results, device information of at least one device satisfying the device attribute information transmitted by the transmission unit, a display unit arranged to display icons respectively corresponding to a device of the device information received as the search results by the reception unit, a setting unit arranged to set location information of a device corresponding to an icon of a device, from among the displayed icons, being designated at a location on a

map, and a registration unit arranged to register the location information set by the setting unit and hierarchical location information including respective location information of plural hierarchies corresponding to the map, to the device represented by the icon whose location is designated on the map.

Amended independent Claims 37 and 39 are method and computer-medium claims, respectively, that substantially correspond to Claim 35.

The applied art, alone or in any permissible combination, is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of the present invention. In particular, the applied art is not seen to disclose or to suggest at least the feature of registering set location information and hierarchical location information including respective location information of plural hierarchies to a device whose location information is not registered.

Tonelli is merely seen to disclose a network design package in which SNMP is used to discover devices on a network. The discovered devices are displayed on a network design sheet and information obtained from the devices is registered in the design program. Thus, while Tonelli may register device information obtained from network devices into the network design program, Applicants fail to see where location information is registered *to a device* that is determined as not having registered location information when the device is discovered. Moreover, Applicants fail to see where hierarchical location information including respective location information of plural hierarchies is registered *to a device* whose location information is not registered. Accordingly, Tonelli is not seen to disclose or to suggest the features of the present invention such that amended independent Claims 30 and 35 to 39 would be anticipated.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, California office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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